

Arts and Black History, p.7



Love Notes, pp. 8, 9, 14, 16

Council Discusses Challenges For Greenbelt East Properties

by Matthew Arbach

Mayor Emmett Jordan, at a January 26 Greenbelt City Council worksession, asserted “we are a city of associations.” Focused on Greenbelt East, council met with homeowner association board members and Executive Vice President Rick Cummings from property manager Condominiums Ventures Incorporated (CVI) to have a detailed discussion of the most pressing issues these communities are facing. Crime, infrastructure and the impact of aging (construction periods span the 1960s through the 1980s) were among the common threads. The properties discussed

were Greenbriar, Windsor Green, Hunting Ridge (all three managed by CVI) and Greenwood Village (managed by D.H. Bader Management). With 2,500 units in all, CVI is the biggest property manager in Greenbelt, thus making them an important city stakeholder (Charlestowne Village is included in their portfolio).

Greenbriar Condominiums has 754 units spaced over three phases. Cummings cited public safety and the relationship with adjoining Eleanor Roosevelt High School as major concerns. While

See **COUNCIL**, page 12

Mail Theft Causes Check Fraud And Much Stress in Greenbelt

by Destiny Herbers

Instances of fraudulent check use through mail theft are on the rise in Greenbelt, with the Greenbelt Police Department reporting four cases of check fraud in January 2022 alone in their weekly crime reports.

Individuals often steal checks from mailboxes and forge or alter a check that has already been written to change the name of the recipient and the amount number, said Hannah Glasgow, a spokesperson for the Greenbelt police.

One victim of check fraud in Greenbelt in January said that her check was stolen from a United



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

Mailbox near Roosevelt Center

States Postal Service collection box and washed, removing the ink and allowing the thief to rewrite the check.

She had written the check to

See **MAIL**, page 12

Should Museum Join Rec? Update on MD193 Planning

by Diane Oberg

At the January 24 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council, Recreation Director Greg Varda and Museum Director Megan Searing Young briefed council on their proposal to “merge” the Greenbelt Museum with the Recreation Department. In addition, council received an update on the Greenbelt Road Corridor Project, currently in progress.

Museum

In the memorandum advancing their proposal, Varda and Young described an increasing set of interactions between the Recreation Department and the Museum, both administrative and programmatic. The two organizations already collaborate on programs such as Black History Month, the Creative Kids Camp, Greenbelt Day, Juneteenth and the Fall Festival.

The memorandum noted the low staffing of the Museum, with just one full-time employee

(Young) and a 15-hour-per-week education and volunteer coordinator, partly funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The memorandum cites many possible benefits of bringing the Museum into the Recreation Department, including increasing the amount of outreach the combined entity could do, bringing Museum programs into the Recreation Department’s RecTrac database and increased visibility for the Recreation Department through the Museum’s blog, walking tours and the future Visitor and Education Center. In addition, the pandemic has “revealed the limitations of relying too heavily on volunteer help.” Varda plans on cross-training some of the part-time non-classified Recreation staff to help with Museum events and programs.

See **MUSEUM**, page 10

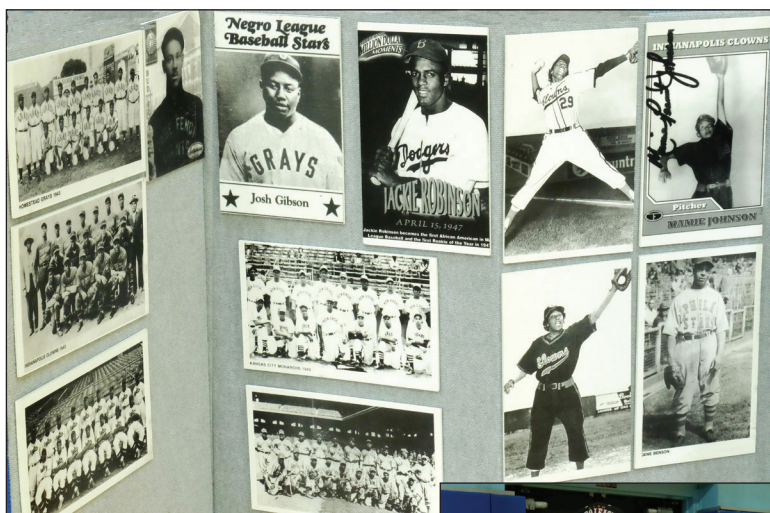
Black History Month

Negro League Baseball Player, Memorabilia at SHL Rec Center

by Leeann Irwin

Residents of Greenbelt and the surrounding areas were honored to have a Negro League Hall of Famer, Luther “Luke” Atkinson, and a display of Black Baseball memorabilia. The exhibit was the first event of a month-long program sponsored by the City of Greenbelt to celebrate Black History Month. The event was organized by the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee and additionally sponsored by RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness).

African American men playing baseball faced segregation and Jim Crow laws, and were excluded from the Major League Baseball world until 1945. The Negro League, created in the 1920s, provided opportunities for men with world-class abilities to play ball and, as well, brought baseball to the world by introducing professional baseball to Japan in 1927. Players from the Negro Leagues were the first people from the United States to play in many Spanish-speaking countries. Games were often attended by an integrated audience when such



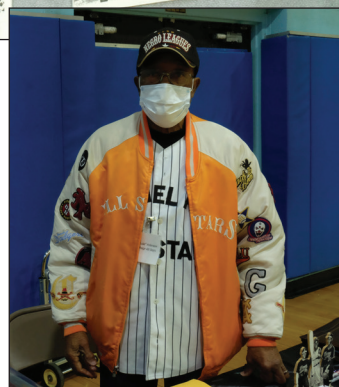
A display of Negro League Players images and statues took over the Springhill Lake Recreation Center gym on February 5 and 6.

- Photos by Melvin Black

socialization was unheard of at that time.

Luke Atkinson played with the Satchel Paige All-Stars, Wilson All Stars and the Carolina Tigers in the Negro Baseball League.

See **BASEBALL**, page 15



Luther "Luke" Atkinson, a former Negro Baseball League Player, attended the event.

Greenbelt Park is Now Fully Operational after Much Repair

by Matthew Arbach

Greenbelt Park, after re-opening in November 2021, is now fully operational with a bevy of interpretive programming in the planning stage. During a shutdown period that coincided with the pandemic’s restrictions on social distancing, the park was given time to make many renovations and upgrades to the roads, bridges, campgrounds, picnic areas and trails. Representatives of the National Park Service’s National Capital Parks-East (NACE), Tonya Thompson, senior advisor to the park superintendent, and Darryl McLeod, acting program manager and maintenance director, met with

the Greenbelt City Council on February 2 to report on the latest happenings and developments at the park.

According to the representatives, NACE administers over 8,000 acres of 13 historic, cultural and recreational parks, including Greenbelt Park, along with a section of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and all of Suitland Parkway for which they do snow and trash removal, and the removal of hazardous trees. McLeod leads a team of

15 workers at the park that is responsible for the maintenance of buildings, utilities and trails. Outside of this are park rangers and police, as well as interpretive staff who work in a collaborative manner.

With the renovation and unanticipated Covid closing, revenue for the park was negatively affected. McLeod was not clear on the extent, saying that as the park has only recently re-opened,

See **PARK**, page 12

What Goes On

Monday, February 14
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting
Wednesday, February 16
8 p.m., Council Worksession: Pepco/WSSC (stakeholder)

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN KOMAR

Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Maya Miller plants a seed with high hopes for the coming harvest. See story, page 10.

Letters to the Editor

Thank You!

We would like to say Thank You to all of the wonderful customers of the Greenbelt Post Office for the love and support that was shown to the three of us before we retired from our duties. It was heartfelt and overwhelming, in a good way. We were all raised to do our best and to remember the “Golden Rule,” treat others the way that you want to be treated. We never imagined that “just doing our job” would have such an impact on people’s lives. We were blessed to work for 30-plus years in a community where people cared about each other and cared about us as well.

We would also like to say Thank You to Katrina Boverman for the Letter to the Editor that she wrote about the three of us. She will always be special to us. During the month of December we were telling as many of our customers that we saw of our upcoming retirement; but we did not think that we would be able to see everyone before we left on 12/31/2021 and say goodbye. We were surprised on Friday, December 24, when we saw the article in the Greenbelt News Review about the three of us and our retirement. So many people from the community stopped by (including the mayor and city council members) to say thank you for our service and to wish us well. We could not believe the outpouring of love. There were so many cards, cakes, brownies, cookies, candy, gift cards, monetary gifts, flowers, plants, balloons, gift bags and boxes that it has taken almost two weeks to sit and enjoy it all.

Again, we would like to thank our special angel Katrina Boverman and the Greenbelt Post Of-

fice community for the outpouring of love and gratitude. You were the best customers any employee could ever want to have.

We Miss and Love you all,
*Angela Allen
Debra Burroughs
Chrystal Whitaker*

Note of Thanks

As a longtime member of the GHI cooperative, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Monica Johnson, Member Services administrative assistant and recording secretary, who is no longer with us. I’m sending this thank you message to Johnson, as I have no other means of contacting her. Johnson served in this position for 10 years with GHI and did a superb job. Monica was the first person you saw at the office. No matter what I was there for, she always greeted me with a warm smile and treated me with respect. Her minutes were detailed and thorough, something that is lacking after her sudden departure. Wherever you are, I hope my message of thanks and appreciation reaches you. Thank you for serving our cooperative with outstanding service. You deserve the recognition.

*Claudia Jones
GHI Member*

Covid Statistics

Thank you to Cathie Meetre and the News Review for your excellent reporting of the Covid caseload at our local Luminis (Doctors) Hospital.

The Washington Post rarely carries statistics anymore; Sunday’s paper had not a mention of Covid. Even the CDC seems

See **LETTERS**, page 6



PHOTO COURTESY USPS

From left, Chrystal Whitaker, Katrina Boverman, Debra Burroughs and Angela Allen

On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

Parallel Mothers

Spanish with English subtitles

Director Pedro Almodóvar’s latest film centers on two women, Janis and Ana, who meet in a hospital room where they are going to give birth. Both are single and became pregnant by accident. Janis, middle-aged, doesn’t regret it and she is exultant. The other, Ana, an adolescent, is scared, repentant and traumatized. Janis tries to encourage her while they move like sleepwalkers along the hospital corridors. The few words they exchange in these hours will create a close link between the two, which by chance develops and complicates, and changes their lives in a decisive way. The film expands on Almodóvar’s previous depictions of womanhood by turning the director’s focus on imperfect mothers, in a departure from his prior work exploring mothers and motherhood. The story unfolds against the backdrop of Spain’s historical reckoning with the painful legacy of the Spanish Civil War. Starring Penélope Cruz, Aitana Sánchez-Gijón and Milena Smit. Cruz has garnered her second Best Actress Oscar nomination for her performance in the film. Rated R, running time 120 minutes

Correction

Our front-page articles last week referencing Black History Month neglected to mention that Leeann Irwin is also co-chair of the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee along with Dr. Lois Rosado.



Drop Us a Line!
Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES
February 11 - February 14

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR negative PCR test (within 72 hours)
AND matching photo ID required for admission.
For more information call (301) 329-2034 or visit greenbelttheatre.org

PARALLEL MOTHERS (R) (2021) (120 MINS) SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

FRI. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
SAT. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
SUN. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
MON. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887
Phone: 301-474-4131; Fax: 301-965-8247
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com (stories, letters, photos)
ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com (ads)
business@greenbeltnewsreview.com (billing)
website: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Presidents: Alfred M. Skolnik, 1959-1977, Elaine Skolnik, 1977-1985
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Amy Hansen, Managing Editor

STAFF

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.

Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.

- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

Community Events

At the Library

Prince George’s County Memorial Library System continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmpls.info/events.

Covid Tests

The Greenbelt Library is no longer receiving Covid tests for free distribution. The Laurel and New Carrollton branches are the nearest libraries to offer them, and they may also now have KN95 masks, but supplies are limited. Check pgcmpls.info/coronavirus for updates.

Library staff are maintaining a Covid-19 Testing Resources guide that can help individuals source PCR and rapid-antigen testing from various local and online providers. Visit pgcmpls.info/coronavirus for more information.

Immigrant Proud

Supporting the 200,000+ immigrants and refugees who live and work in Prince George’s County has long been a Library priority. This winter, the Library launches Immigrant Proud, a campaign to highlight the rich resources available to immigrants.

Immigrant Proud showcases books and online resources to support language learning and legal needs, free citizenship bundles to support preparation for citizenship exams, as well as programs like English classes for English language learners, Kids Achieve Club virtual tutoring for students in grades 1 to 4, Leamos literacy classes for Spanish speakers, citizenship study groups and language conversation clubs for informal practice. An overview of resources is available at the Library’s Immigrant Proud webpage (pgcmpls.info/immigrantproud) and on displays in branch libraries.

U.S. Passports

The Greenbelt Library is a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmpls.info/passport-services. Families with multiple applicants must schedule separate appointments for each person.

FAFSA Help

Live assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application is offered via Brainfuse HelpNow. This service provides students and families with personalized support as they navigate the process of applying to college and seeking federal financial aid. Tutors are available Mondays through Thursdays from 2 to 11 p.m. to assist students and parents with the FAFSA application at any stage in the application process.

Order Free Rapid Home Covid-19 Tests

The federal government is making available free at-home Covid-19 tests, with each residential household in the U.S. eligible to order one set of four rapid antigen tests. The brief order form, asking for only contact and shipping information, takes just a moment to fill out. The form and more information can be found at COVIDtests.gov. Orders will ship within 7 to 12 days, with delivery by the U.S. Postal Service.

Art Reception At New Deal Café

On Sunday, February 13, Friends of New Deal Café Arts is sponsoring an art reception from 3 to 5 p.m. at the New Deal Café. The reception celebrates the abstract group show New Horizons, which will be on display through February 28. Come check out the art and enjoy the opportunity to meet some of the participating artists!

Proof of vaccination is required for attendance, and mask wearing when not actively eating or drinking is mandatory.

Free Covid-19 Test Kits

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living program will be offering free Covid-19 Test Kits (one box per resident) and N95 masks to Greenbelt residents. Residents must appear in person to pick up supplies. Quantities are limited.

Tuesday, February 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Schrom Hills Recreation Center (drive-thru event)

Wednesday, February 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Thursday, February 17, 1 to 3 p.m., Community Center (drive-thru event)

Propagate Native Plants Workday

Help fight invasives and plant natives – and also learn to heat bamboo for natural weatherproofing. The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Saturday, February 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. The mission is to build several fences to exclude deer. Meet at the picnic table between 8 and 10 Courts Laurel Hill Road; the work site is next to the blackberry patch at woodland’s edge.

What to bring:

1. A face mask for when you are in proximity to others. All participants are required to socially distance as much as possible for their safety and that of others.
2. Clothes that cover your skin. We recommend leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches.
3. Bug repellent, hand sanitizer, etc.
4. Tools and equipment will be provided, but bring a shovel, hacksaw or drawknife, if possible.

For more information, contact BryanBruns@yahoo.com.

Golden Age Club February Activities

All meetings are still held on Zoom. To join the Golden Agers email list and obtain Zoom information for virtual meetings, contact Becky Sutfin at rsutfin@greenbeltnmd.gov.

February 16 – February birthdays celebration

February 23 – Black History Month presentation: Patricia Tyson, president of the Military Road School Preservation Trust, will discuss the history and present activities surrounding one of the oldest schools for Black students in D.C., from the Civil War era.

Greenbelt PORCH Expands At Large

Greenbelt PORCH has rolled out P.A.L. (PORCH At Large) for Greenbelters who are interested in the PORCH program but don’t have a coordinator in their neighborhood. To participate, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com with the address by noon on Sunday, February 20. Leave the donation, marked RUAK or PORCH, visible from the street, by the front door. Do not set out items that have passed their expiry date.

Upcoming collection dates are as follows:

By 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 13 at 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway. By 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 for Woodland Hills.

Between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 20 for all of Boxwood Village. Between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 20 for P.A.L.

Between 9 and 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 26 for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are welcome. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.

GIVES Office Is Once More in the Office

The GIVES office has reopened and volunteers are taking calls each weekday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. from people who need services. They are an all-volunteer membership organization that helps Greenbelt residents who need assistance to live independently in their own homes.

GIVES volunteers help transport people to medical and other necessary appointments, take care of pets during hospital stays or other times when seniors cannot, stay with members who can’t be left alone so that their family can run errands, and pick up groceries or other items ordered online.

If you need help now or know someone who needs our services, call 301-607-6580 to receive a membership application form. Member requests are sent to volunteer providers to find a match. Applications are processed as quickly as possible to get services to those in need.

Because volunteers transport people in their cars, the group’s insurance company requires that people receiving or providing services be GIVES members.

For more information about becoming a member, either to receive assistance or to volunteer to help others, call 301-507-6580 or email at givesoffice@gmail.com.

Mindful Nutrition Redefined

On Sunday, February 13 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., Greenbelt Unplugged will host one of The Granite Building’s newest tenants, Rachael Pitts, MS, MA, for a community event via Zoom. Join in to learn how a relationship with food can be transformed and supported by the art of mindfulness, including a short practice and new techniques to use at home. Bring something delicious to eat or drink when logging on. The meeting ID is 869 1887 7769 and the passcode is 016110. To avoid typing errors, get a simple link to the meeting by sending an email to events@greenbeltunplugged.org.

For more information on Pitts’s work, visit MorrisMaher.com. Her graduate training, in both functional nutrition and integrative wellness coaching, is complemented by years of apprenticeship in the fields of mindfulness, breathwork and the sacred. She is both Enneagram-informed and Internal Family Systems trained, with a special focus in her practice on food + sex + breath.



City Celebrates Centenarians

The City of Greenbelt would like to celebrate Greenbelt residents who have reached the milestone age of 100 years. To have a loved one or friend recognized, contact Rebekah Sutfin at 240-542-2056 or rsutfin@greenbeltnmd.gov.

The centenarian can choose from a variety of options to celebrate.

The city will continue to promote senior services and appreciation throughout the year. Recognizing the city’s diverse population, Greenbelt seeks to celebrate centenarians’ experiences and wisdom, provide activities that meet their needs and encourage seniors to age in place here in Greenbelt.

Alonzo Washington Offers Scholarship

State Delegate Alonzo T. Washington is now accepting applications for his 2022 to 2023 Scholarship Award Program. Applications, open to current high school seniors or those seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree, are available online at tinyurl.com/WashingtonScholarship2022.

To be eligible, applicants must attend a college or university in Maryland and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Undocumented residents are eligible for funds and are welcome to apply. Those who have received Delegate Washington’s scholarship in the past must re-apply this year.

For more information, email Alonzo.Washington@house.state.md.us or call 301-858-3652. The application deadline is Friday, May 20.

Sen. Pinsky Offers 2022 Scholarship

Applications are being accepted for State Senator Paul Pinsky’s 2022 Senatorial Scholarship. Those applying should be current high school seniors or full-time and part-time degree-seeking undergraduate or graduate students who live in the 22nd Legislative District.

The application is available online at senatorpinsky.org. Complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid in addition to the scholarship application.

Selection is based on academic achievement, financial need and commitment to higher education. Awards range from \$500 to \$2,000.

For anyone who received an award from Senator Pinsky during a previous academic year, the award will be renewed automatically as long as the awardee maintained satisfactory academic progress. For more information call 301-858-3155 or email paul.pinsky@senate.state.md.us. The application deadline is Sunday, April 3.



Greenbelt Access Television Feb 11, Fri – Feb 17, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATe Classic Film • Biography	The Joe Louis Story • 1953 Coley Wallace
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Charles Carroll v Robert Goddard
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Miles Gannett Band • Modern Country
3pm	GATe Classic Film • Biography	The Joe Louis Story • 1953 Coley Wallace
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Charles Carroll v Robert Goddard
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATe Classic Film • Biography	The Joe Louis Story • 1953 Coley Wallace
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Miles Gannett Band • Modern Country
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming

Connect with GATe www.greenbeltaccessstv.org
BLACK HISTORY MONTH



More Community Events
are located throughout
the paper.

Obituaries

Richard Backstrom



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Richard Perry Backstrom

Richard Perry Backstrom, 77, formerly of Greenbelt, died peacefully surrounded by his family, on January 25, 2022, at Luminis Health Doctors Hospital after a long illness. Richard was born on July 3, 1944, in Rhinelander, Wisc., to Vernon A. and Geraldine M. (née Perry) Backstrom. Richard moved to Greenbelt in 1946 where his parents both went to work for the federal government. He attended St. Hugh Catholic School and Church, where he was an altar boy. He attended DeMatha High School and graduated from High Point High School in Beltsville. After high school, Richard enlisted in the Maryland National Guard in Greenbelt and was subsequently transferred to the DC unit where he was assigned to the 115th Hospital Medical Evacuation battalion. He held an Expert Badge with the M-1 Rifle and a Sharp Shooters Badge with the M-14 Rifle. His civilian career was in managerial positions in various food-related services.

In July 1969, Richard married Charlene (née Shaffer) Backstrom and they moved to Greenbelt living first at 2 Court Gardenway and later Hedgewood Drive in Boxwood Village, where they raised their four sons, who all graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. After a divorce in 1993, Richard married again.

In Richard's leisure he enjoyed spending time with his boys. Football was especially enjoyable to him and he loved the Washington Commanders (formerly Redskins). Richard had a love for trains and antique wooden boats. He was a great cook and was well known for his delicious cream of crab soup. Richard was a beloved father to his boys and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Charles (Bob) Backstrom. He is

survived by his sons, Eric John of Crofton, Gregory Michael (Stephanie) of Chesapeake Beach, Michael Perry (Seny) of Bowie and Kevin James (Krystle) of Bowie; and his siblings Janis Lentz and Susan Burns (William). He is survived by his first wife, Charlene Backstrom of Greenbelt, and second wife, Kathleen Backstrom of Columbia, Md. He also had many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren that he loved.

A Mass was celebrated on Wednesday, February 9 at St. Hugh Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to the American Kidney Foundation or the Maryland SPCA.

Kenneth E. Brown

Kenneth Everett Brown, devoted husband and father, died on February 4, 2022, in Solomons, Md. Ken was born in Middletown, Conn., on October 11, 1944, and grew up in East Hartford with his parents Otto and Ethel Schwitzer, and his siblings, Earlene and Frank. As a young boy, Ken loved sports, especially football, basketball and bowling, and enjoyed hanging out with his siblings and friends. Even at a young age, he understood the value of hard work as he delivered newspapers, shoveled snow and did yard work for neighbors. He also shared his time with his church where he sang in the choir and volunteered as a summer camp counselor.

After graduating from East Hartford High School, Ken went on to proudly serve his country as a combat engineer in the Vietnam War. He received several commendation medals and was an expert rifleman. Ken reflected upon his service often and was very proud that he had the opportunity to serve the country he

loved so much. Upon his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, he moved to the Washington, D.C., area where he met his wife of 54 years, Brenda. They married and resided in Greenbelt with their three children, Robert, Kristine and Rachelle.

Ken was an extremely hard working, dedicated man who shared his technical expertise as a machinist at Halpro, Inc., a precision manufacturing company in Rockville, for 40 years. He was a devout Catholic and a parishioner of St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. He was a very giving man and spent much of his time supporting his family and his community. Ken was a volunteer for the local Boy Scout Troop 1253, Springhill Lake Little League Baseball, Springhill Lake Swim Team and the Polka Belles and Beaus in College Park. He was a member of the Polish National Alliance, the American Legion in Greenbelt and the College Park Moose Association.

Ken was a man of simple pleasures who could find happiness in the subtleness of special moments – enjoying a hot cup of coffee or a hearty meal, chatting with a neighbor, listening to all types of music from Elvis to classical symphony. He and Brenda enjoyed attending operas at the University of Maryland and visiting the Basilica of the National Shrine. He cherished each moment with his grandchildren and had a special unique bond with each of them. His absolute favorite pastime was cheering on the Boston Red Sox and the Washington Redskins, as his passion and loyalty never wavered over the years.

He was a kind man whose outgoing, witty personality was larger than life. His smiling eyes, humor and warm nature lit

up a room. He was a beloved member of the community and if your paths crossed, you were his friend. Ken was a man of strong character whose life and love touched many. His lessons of faith, family and service were taught through his actions and will live on for generations.

Ken is survived by his wife, Brenda, three children and six grandchildren, Kevin, Tyler, Bryan, Dylan, Jenavieve and William.

Viewing will be on Tuesday, February 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Rd., Beltsville.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, February 16 at 10 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road.

Donations to Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675, woundedwarriorproject.org or Shriners Hospitals for Children, 2900 Rocky Pointe Dr, Tampa, FL 33607, lovetootherescue.org.



Condolences to the family and friends of Kenneth Brown who died on February 4. We were saddened to also learn of the death of Dorothea Leslie on February 4. They both were active and involved in the community during their years in Greenbelt.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School alum, Isaiah Prince, who will be playing for the Cincinnati Bengals in Super Bowl LVI.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



PHOTO COURTESY CINCINNATI BENGALS

Isaiah Prince

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

“God is the helper of those souls whose aim is to serve humanity and whose efforts and endeavors are devoted to the good and betterment of all mankind.”

– ‘Abdu’l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-9410

Reverend Rivera, Pastor

In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Happy Valentine's Day

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaismism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666

www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



February 13 10 a.m.

Loving Ourselves and the World Whole

Rev. Ann Kadlecck with Worship Associate Tricia Most

Each of us is unique, but all of humanity has one thing in common: everyone has a body. How we deal with that reality has profound implications for our lives and for the world around us. How will we choose to live with the body that is ours?

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



The Bible Says...

Therefore bear fruit
in keeping with repentance

Matthew 3:8



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
MCFcc.org



Whoever you are
and wherever you are
on your
Spiritual journey,
you are welcome HERE.



This Sunday's Sermon
on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:15

God's Indwelling
Fullness

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.



City Notes

Sustainability/Environmental chose trees and shrubs for their Arbor Day giveaway. Refuse/ Recycling collected 23.75 tons of refuse and 8.72 tons of recyclables and Public Works staff attended bucket truck safety training.

With two cats surrendered and three impounded, Animal Control now shelters eight cats and three kittens.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted the first Black History Month event, the Negro League Baseball Exhibit.

To prepare for Covid-safe summer camps, Recreation staff attended Covid and Camp – What We Know Now, offered by the American Camp Association, Centers for Disease Control and the Association of Camp Nursing. They also attended the Maryland Department of Health’s Camp Safety Meeting.

A fully-booked Artful Afternoon event celebrated Black History Month. Twenty-nine art classes, workshops and studios with 210 participants are underway. The Arts Advisory Board endorsed merging the Greenbelt Museum with the Recreation Department.

Therapeutic Recreation facilitated meal delivery for 21 seniors.

CARES’s Deji Ayoku served in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s annual Point in Time Count of unsheltered individuals, distributing necessities and offering shelter.

City Offers Rent Utility Assistance

Through CARES, those who live within the city limits of Greenbelt are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 per household from the American Rescue Plan Act federal funds for emergency rental assistance. Applicants must show financial hardship due to Covid-19. Previous recipients of rental or utility assistance funds can apply but the previous balances count toward the total grant award allowed.

Email Cares@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-345-6660 to receive an application.

Donate Sneakers For People in Need

The Board of Congregational Life at Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, where they have harmful effects on the environment. The sneakers are sent to countries where the poor often go barefoot out of necessity. For more information about GotSneakers, go to their website at GotSneakers.com.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time. GotSneakers will pay GCC a varying amount for name-brand and off-brand laced-up sneakers with no tears inside or outside. The company even pays for cleaning and shipping – all GCC does is collect sneakers.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 14, 2022 at 7:30pm

ORGANIZATION
Roll Call
Call to Order
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS
Presentations
- Black History Proclamation
- Random Acts of Kindness
Petitions and Requests
*** Minutes of Council Meetings**
Statement of Record - Closed Session, November 11, 2021
Statement for the Record - Closed Session, December 15, 2021
Statement for the Record - Closed Session, January 6, 2022
Statement for the Record - Closed Session, January 31, 2022
Administrative Reports
*** Committee Reports**

LEGISLATION
- Resolution Bonus for COVID Booster Vaccination; *1st Reading, Suspension of Rules, 2nd Reading, Adoption*

OTHER BUSINESS
- State Legislation
- Discussion of the Reparations Commission
- Discussion on changing the Council Standing Rules Order
- ARPA Immediate Funding: Additional Rental Assistance
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
* Appointment to Advisory Board
* Reappointment to Advisory Boards

MEETINGS

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

This meeting will be in person, and the City will adhere to COVID restrictions. Therefore, space is limited; pre-registration is required at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DAAA823A7FAC43-council>

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY 13-19

Monday, February 14 at 7:30 pm, **REGULAR MEETING**, *Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

Tuesday, February 15 at 7:30 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Call to Order, Review past Meeting Minutes, Old Business, New Business, Adjourn.*

Wednesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm, **PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Call meeting to order, Agenda approval, Approve December 15, 2021 meeting minutes, Council Liaison Update, New Business, Old Business, Recreation Department Update, Administration Report, For the Good of the Order, Adjournment.*

Wednesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Call to order, Approval of agenda, Approval of Minutes of February 2, 2022, Update on Planning Department Projects, Advisory Planning Board Priorities, New Business, Adjourn.*

Wednesday, February 16 at 8 pm, **WORK SESSION – PEPCO/ WSSC**, *Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov

GREENBELT ROAD CORRIDOR PLAN VISIONING MEETING

FEBRUARY 10 7-9PM VIA ZOOM

Learn more about the project, ask questions, and share your ideas to help envision the future of Greenbelt Road.

Plan del corredor de Greenbelt Road

Obtenga mas informacion sobre el proyecto haga preguntas y comparta sus ideas para ayudar a visualizar el futuro de Greenbelt Road.

Get meeting info, registration, and Zoom links at tinyurl.com/2p9su98m

Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee is excited to celebrate Black History Month this year focusing on the theme of Black Health and Wellness. The committee has added wealth and finance because they intersect with health and wellness. The Committee offers an exciting and informative array of programs and activities celebrating the contributions of African Americans to the economic and social growth of the U.S.A.

Please visit greenbeltmd.gov/bhm to see a list of events and sign up!

GREENBELT CARES PRESENTS THE TEEN D.R.A.M.A. CLUB

Dispute Resolution And Managing Anger for Teens Ages 13-18
Join us online on Mondays, January 24 - February 28 7 at 8:15 pm (No Class, Feb. 21)

Earn a gift card for participation

To enroll, send an email to cares@greenbeltmd.gov

COVID-19 TEST KIT DISTRIBUTION

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program will be providing COVID-19 Test Kits (1 box per resident) and N95 masks for Greenbelt Residents at the addresses below. Resident must be in-person to pick up a kit and mask.

11:30 - 1:30pm Feb 15 Schrom Hills Recreation Center 6915 Hanover Pkwy <i>(Drive-thru event)</i>	11:30 - 1:30pm Feb 16 Springhill Lake Recreation Center 3101 Cherrywood Ln	1 - 3pm Feb 17 Greenbelt Community Center 15 Crescent Rd Ground Floor East
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****Proof of Greenbelt residency is required. Please provide one of the following documents: state-issued photo ID, mail from a federal, state, or local government agency displaying your name and Greenbelt residential address.****

For additional information, kindly reach out to Pamela Aluvalé at (240) 542-2033 or paluvalé@greenbeltmd.gov

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION ¡GRATIS! DISTRIBUCION DE VERDURAS

Thursday, February 17 1pm - 3pm	Jueves, 17 de Febrero 1pm - 3pm
Greenbelt Community Center 15 Crescent Road	Centro Comunitario de Greenbelt 15 Crescent Road

NOW RECRUITING FOR THE 2022 CITIZEN’S POLICE ACADEMY

A free 10-week course designed to increase communication and understanding between members of the Greenbelt community and the Greenbelt Police Department. It is an excellent opportunity for individuals, living, working, or attending school in Greenbelt to gain a better understanding of how your law enforcement agency works. The GCPA combines classroom and hands-on instruction on a wide variety of police functions.

Running Tuesday evenings from March 1 through May 3
Applications are due Sunday, February 20

Do you enjoy serving your community? Are you available every third Thursday of the month from 10am to 3pm?

COME OUT AND HELP AS A PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEER!

To sign up, contact Flora Li at (301) 412-2480 or fli@greenbeltmd.gov

Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 1/31/22)

Rent and Utility Assistance
· 186 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$703,113.49

Mortgage and HOA fee Assistance
· 4 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$7271.19

FREE TUTORING PROGRAMS
Registration open for K-12

Thursdays 3-5:30pm
6101 Cherrywood Lane

Classes Include:
Mathematics, English, Science, Social Studies

For more information or special accommodation, contact:
(202) 710-6473
dayoku@greenbeltmd.gov

FEELING ISOLATED? LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS?

We are here to help. Join the Greenbelt Assistant in Living (GAIL) online support group. Meets every 3rd Wednesday, 2-3 pm.

Pre-registration required. Interested? Contact Sharon Johnson at 240-542-2029 or Sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov

PRESIDENTS' DAY OF SERVICE

February 21
Buddy Attick Park
555 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
10 AM – 1 PM

Be a part of the community effort to protect trees from beaver herbivory at Buddy Attick Park. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to place wire caging around the trunks of native trees to protect them from beaver herbivory and remove invasive vines.

Reminders:
Bring a reusable water bottle. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes. Students: bring community-service forms

To Register: Contact Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

Catholic Deaf Ministries Begin Sunday School, Mass at St. Hugh

by Mary Tretler

On Sunday, February 6, Archdiocese of Washington Deaf Community Sunday School and Mass took place in its new temporary home at St. Hugh of Grenoble School and Church. Due to a recent fire at their location since 1975 in Landover Hills, they sought space at nearby St. Hugh. Sunday School parents met in the school gym for a slide presentation on Pope Francis’s Call for Synod Sessions on journeying together with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Their children met in a classroom down the school hall for the sacrament of confirmation preparation.

Then at 2 p.m. Father Min Seo Park, the chaplain of the St. Francis Deaf Catholic Church and Gallaudet University Campus

Ministry, celebrated Mass at St. Hugh Church. It was beautiful and inspiring to watch Father Min use sign language to communicate the gospel to the 50 deaf parishioners in attendance. He signed “that the beauty and brilliant colors of the St. Hugh Church icons really contributed to the visual worship experience for those in attendance.” Father Min also gave a brief talk at the end of Mass on the history and life of the church namesake, St. Hugh of Grenoble.

The Mass was livestreamed to the greater Catholic Deaf Community. Mass attendees expressed their appreciation for being able to use the school and church to continue their ministry to the deaf community.



Above, congregants gather at St. Hugh's for a sign language Mass.

At left, parents of deaf children enjoy a post-Sunday School snack in St. Hugh's school.

- Photos by Glenn Harris

Members of Council Reflect On How to Respond to Crime

by Matthew Arbach

After the close of the meeting agenda on February 2, the Greenbelt City Council had a brief discussion on how to respond to the city’s recent rise in violent crime.

The subject was initiated when Mayor Emmett Jordan remarked on a February 5 prayer vigil, online via Zoom, which was planned by Councilmember Ric Gordon. The event was organized by Gordon as an individual not as a councilmember. Jordan, supportive of Gordon’s efforts, wondered whether this pressing issue would benefit from a broader citywide approach that would include more members of council. Councilmembers Colin Byrd and Silke Pope, along with Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver gave their support, acknowledging Gordon’s right as a resident to act individually in a manner important to him.

Councilmember Judith Davis said that, while she believed in the positive effect of prayer, addressing crime reduction in the city will require concrete and effective actions.

Pope expressed her frustration with the efficacy of the recent police forums held throughout the city, saying that the Greenbelt Police Department is limited in

how it can answer the outrage and fear expressed by residents. She spoke about a never-ending cycle of crises followed by quietude, with no lasting solution in sight.

Regarding the prayer vigil, Gordon said in a separate interview that “it was something that moved my heart and that I felt was needed, hence I did this as a non-official city event,” an outgrowth of being “a man of faith.” Gordon said that he believed that “prayer can change minds, attitudes, hearts and also heal the broken-hearted.”

Nearly 30 residents joined the Zoom meeting, representing the entire city and many faiths, including Christian, Jewish, Bahai, Hindu and Catholic, who “joined in for love of our community.” Said Gordon, “We prayed for everything that has been plaguing our community,” including “crime, mental health, Covid-19 and financial struggles.”

Gordon echoed Davis’s earlier sentiment, saying, “Prayer must be followed by works and it will take every Greenbelt resident to stand for change. Policy alone won’t do it. Prayer must be followed by community work.”

In Memoriam

Dorothea Leslie

by Rick Ransom

Dorothea Leslie, who moved to Greenbelt in 1958 with her husband John and her young son Jack, died peacefully at Morning-side Assisted Care in Bethesda on Friday, February 4, 2022. Originally from Boynton, Pa., she was 96 years old and in relatively good health until the past year.

She met her husband on a blind date, according to her daughter Jill (Matt) LaCross of Bethesda. Jill was born after the couple moved to Greenbelt. Mrs. Leslie’s husband died in 1974. She stayed in their GHI home and never remarried. Her son Jack lived with her until he moved to his own place in town. He remains a steadfast Greenbelter.

Dorothea joined the Holy Cross Lutheran Church and became good friends with Pastor Ed Birner and his wife Nancy. Other close friends included Lydia Goldstein, Bunny Fitzgerald and Betty Wynkoop. After her husband died, it was Mrs. Wynkoop who encouraged her to take a job at the County Bus Lot behind Greenbelt Junior High as an aid for disabled and special needs students. She was also a longtime member of the Greenbelt Fire House Ladies’ Auxiliary and a member of the Golden Age Club.



Dorothea Leslie

She participated in the exercise program and took walks around Greenbelt for many years. She substituted at Meals on Wheels as well.

Both Jack and Jill remember most prominently their mother’s cooking skills. Jill said she always shared her baked goods. She also remembers that she made hardtack candy at Christmas every year and distributed it to everyone. Besides Jack and Jill, Mrs. Leslie is survived by her two grandsons, Paul and Scott LaCross. Services were held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Tuesday, February 8.

Letters continued

to not mention how many unvaccinated versus vaccinated people are in the hospital and in what capacities. You present a very clear chart and reporting of the categories of hospitalizations and Covid deaths.

These numbers and graphics clearly show the need to be fully vaccinated with the booster shots. This is important journalism on a critical, literally life and death matter.

Frank Gervasi

Editor’s Note: The infographics are produced at the News Review’s request by Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center.

Native Grapes

The Greenbelt News Review letter of Damien Ossi in March 2020 very nicely summarized the benefits of the native vines found in our forest, and the need for weed warriors to be trained to recognize vine friends from foes. Nonetheless, this week I found multiple native grapevines cut by overzealous volunteers in the shared GHI woods, behind

Laurel Hill Road and at the end of Plateau Place. One behind my house was 2.5” in diameter, another more than 6”. I counted the rings of the smaller one and it was more than 30 years old. Please, do not cut our old native vines!

Native grape vines use the tree like an elevator and grow with the trees without strangling them or hurting them. “Native grapes are one of the most important summer wildlife foods,” states the guidebook Mistaken Identity: Invasive Plants and their Native Look-alikes. Nonetheless, one can cut a 40- to 60-year-old native vine with a small handsaw in just a couple of minutes. It is heart-breaking. You would think twice before cutting any tree that old.

Many classes are normally taught in the area about invasive plants, but most seem to still be on hold, so I will run a hands-on vine identification session in the coming weeks after obtaining permission. It will be outside only, in the Laurel Hill Road area. Email me at plaisant@umd.edu if you are interested.

Catherine Plaisant

Patuxent Refuge Opens Kids Discovery Center

The Kids Discovery Center in the lobby of the National Wildlife Visitor Center at the Patuxent Research Refuge South Tract offers a fun, educational and challenging experience for parents and children. Each month, a new wildlife theme will engage children ages 3 to 8 and their parents using a variety of parent-led, hands-on activities to learn about nature. The theme for February is Trees in Winter.

Pre-register by calling the front desk of the Visitor Center at 301-497-5760 to reserve a free 35-minute time slot (reservations are limited to two slots at a time). A parent is required to work with the child at each of the activities. Time slots are available at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., and noon, Tuesdays through Saturdays.

New Greenbelt Listings



UNDER CONTRACT
19S Ridge Road
\$215,000

A charming brick townhouse with enclosed porches in one of the most centrally located and charming courts in all of Old Greenbelt. Mini-splits, fresh carpeting, refinished floors and a galley kitchen with dishwasher.



UNDER CONTRACT
45 Lakeside Dr.
\$525,000

Lakeside single-family home for sale! Roomy wintertime lake-view house backs to the woods and possesses many sustainable, energy-saving and water-conserving features.



1912 Mt. Hope Court
\$499,900

Is your commute north killing you? This spacious and beautifully maintained home is only 3 miles from Fort Meade with easy access to Baltimore and Annapolis.

Kim Kash

Realtor®
m 301.789.6294
kim.kash@compass.com

Compass is a licensed real estate brokerage that abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. All measurements and square footages are approximate. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Compass is licensed as Compass Real Estate in DC and as Compass in Virginia and Maryland. 640 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20003 | 202.543.6900

COMPASS



AA-Urology

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Specialists in urologic health.

- ✓ Urogynecology
- ✓ Urinary incontinence
- ✓ Bladder, urinary tract infections
- ✓ Prostate health
- ✓ Erectile dysfunction
- ✓ Kidney stones

Black History Month

Black Artists Engage All Ages In Fun Hands-on Art Activities

by Nicole DeWald

On Sunday, February 6, community members of all ages gathered at the Community Center to celebrate Black History Month with free hands-on art activities. Greenbelt Recreation’s Artful Afternoon program included socially-distanced workshops with local artists Schroeder Cherry and Imani W. Russell. Both artists’ work is featured in the new exhibition Next Up at the Community Center Art Gallery.

Cherry taught participants how to make a book – with secret pages – out of a single sheet of paper. Each participant brought their own perspective and exuberant design sensibility to the challenge. Elizabeth Gaines was inspired to create a book about Greenbelt history. Judy and Robert Goldberg-Strassler created a book based on the things – and people – that their grandson Alain loves. Other participants created beautiful abstract art books and elaborate Valentines.

Russell warmly invited guests to experiment with hand stitching, using colorful scraps and threads to create pendants, brooches and small “stuffed.” Some participants left with creations made from the very same fabrics Russell had used to create the artwork in the gallery exhibit. Russell makes dolls and fabric paintings, all sewn by hand. She notes, “I am largely self-taught. My influences emanate from the talents of my creative mother, maternal grandma and auntie. They created hand-stitched utilitarian quilts and other wonderful things from worn clothing, found fabrics and unusual objects.” Russell has adapted this resourcefulness, skill and collage aesthetic to create expressive works of art.

Russell is represented in the gallery show by eight of her wall pieces. Night Garden is a lively, abstract work, showcasing the artist’s love of organic, freeform stitching. The monochromic Thread Dancer is exceptionally elegant and delicate, befitting a piece that began with an antique slip. The exhibit also includes examples of Russell’s pictorial work, including The Maker cradling her bundle of colorful fabric, and Salat (meaning “prayer” in Arabic). Ode to James A. Baldwin was created in response to the documentary film I Am Not Your Negro, about this Black American writer and civil rights activist. Russell’s piece, Sea Island Harvest, alludes to another source of lasting inspiration: the Gullah culture of the Georgia Sea Islands, a distinctive African American community descended from rice growers from Sierra Leone. The figures in Russell’s pictorial work, and her dolls, often have only lips or no facial features at all. The viewer is free to make of this aesthetic choice what they will, perhaps finding in the works an “everywoman” quality, an invitation to the viewer’s imagination, an assertion of privacy, or perhaps even an allusion to the historical erasure of Black identities.

Cherry’s work in the exhibition includes seven mixed media wall pieces that combine figurative painting with assemblage. Shards of glass give some



Artist Schroeder Cherry delivers his piece Piano.



Artist Imani Russell, center, leads a sewing activity with guests Sally Gilbert, left, and the Connor family.

works a mosaic-like effect. Several pieces incorporate locks and keys, evoking themes of security and access. Some include playing cards, suggesting questions around the interplay of strategy and chance. Many pieces include images of watermelon, which the artist associates with beauty, health and joy and also seeks to reclaim from a history of negative racial stereotypes. This reclamation is perhaps most poignant in Cherry’s piece Piano; a slice of watermelon sits like a rug beneath the feet of a pianist in a white tuxedo, the fruit mirrored by soaring images of flowers and flight in the upper hemisphere of the composition.

Cherry’s piece Leap is of particular relevance to the theme of this year’s Black History Month observance: Body, Mind and Money: Black Health, Wellness and Finance. The artist explains that this striking piece, juxtaposing a woman in business attire with a leaping lion, reflects his meditation on the experiences of Black women in corporate culture – required in some ways to “be a beast” while managing the risks and costs that can come along with that.

Most of Cherry’s works feature images of Black men, including a few examples from his Barbershop series. Cherry depicts

the caring interactions between barbers and clients with comfortable naturalism. The figures do not appear to be in conversation, suggesting a bond deeper than that forged through language, and the blending of private inner worlds in important communal spaces. The exhibition also includes two small mixed media sculptures. Inspired by a Gabriel García Márquez short story about an angel that fell to earth, Cherry notes that his “Angel Can Series depicts Black males as spiritual beings.” These Angels are “spiritual guides one calls on when in the thick of it.”

In bringing together these two distinctive artists, the exhibition strives to present a harmonious balance of hard and soft media, masculine and feminine cultural traditions, historical resonance and contemporary relevance. Next Up: Schroeder Cherry and Imani W. Russell is on view daily at the Community Center through March 25. Holidays excepted, gallery hours are: Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. All ages are welcome. Visit greenbeltmd.gov for links to online information about these artists and about additional Greenbelt Recreation ARTS programs.



Artist Imani Russell unpacks her piece Ode to James A. Baldwin.



Leap, by Schroeder Cherry

Tap into the Equity in your Home

with a Home Equity Loan Special

at your Community Credit Union

A woman with curly hair, wearing a yellow long-sleeved shirt and blue overalls, is smiling and holding a red tool. She is standing in front of a wall that has a grid of colorful squares on it. The squares are in various colors like yellow, orange, and red.

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

112 Centerway, Roosevelt Center

301-474-5900 - www.greenbeltfcu.com

The logo for Equal Housing Lender, featuring a stylized house icon with an equals sign inside, and the words "EQUAL HOUSING LENDER" below it.

Love Notes

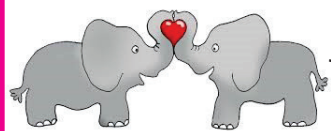
Continued on page 16

*Happy
Valentine's
Day
from the
News Review!*

Pumpkins are orange,
Beavers in Scotland, with people,
peacefully coexist!
I'd cross the blue Ocean, and
climb to the cairn atop The Bloreng,
For you my love, and your charming little
idiosyncrasies, that I just can't resist!
Love you Honey!!! Mwah!!!



Jojo, I am sure this has the potential to be
embarrassing but that's the kind of dad you've
got. I love you and I am so very proud of all
you've managed these past couple years. I've
got no rhyme or funny quip
just giant hugs and gratitude
that you're my kid. I love you,
from the world's best farter.



To 3C Greenway
Be my valentine
Any day spent with you
is my favorite day
So today is my
new favorite day!

G.H. -
Like two ships at sea,
We were cruising the
store aisles,
And found 2 like
hearts.
DMP

To my love, Annie:
The 'rona is waning, year two
Social events, just a few
We stay home and cuddle
There is no rebuttal
I'm happy to spend time with you!
Hugs and Kisses, Marc

VALENTINE'S DAY
ALL YOU
NEED IS LOVE
FEBRUARY
14TH
LOVE
be mine!
2022

M, Our love took time,
So happy you're finally mine.
Thirty years apart,
Now forever in my heart.
You bowl me over every day,
Team Marbelica all the way!
I love you and the wonderful
things you do (and say),
Happy Anniversary &
Valentine's Day!
Love, J

Dear LA,
Roses are red violets are blue
How have we managed to make it through
Five years are upon us
And we're still on the bus
Sometimes we might even fuss
Holding hands or walking arm in arm
We might even spread a bit of charm
Loving on the towns' canines
or watching Netflix equines
Always know you are
my favorite Valentine's.
Lots of Love, KB

Stacey, I love you more than I can say.
To be with you is an adventure every day!
It fills me with joy when you smile,
It always does and we've been together awhile!
Please know in your heart,
I have loved you from the start.
If we weren't together I'd miss you so much.
I still long for your loving touch!

There is a fine lady named Kerry,
Who privileged I am to have married.
We've been valentines,
More than twenty odd times,
When asked if I'm happy, I say VERY!
Love (your still smitten husband), Dan

Sending much gratitude to all
who smile under their masks,
Wave and say hello as people
jog, bike, or walk past,
And keep Greenbelt functioning
in a pandemic despite the many asks.



Dear Brian Stauber, Will you be my Greenbelt
Valentine? I propose we take a walk in Buddy
Attack Park while eating chocolates from the
Co-op. Or we could dine at The New Deal Cafe
and then go to the movie theater. I love you very
much, your wife, Jen.

TO THE BOY WITH THE '53 PLYMOUTH
From days in DC 60 years ago
For all this time, you have been my beau
When I'm with you, my ukulele sings
YOU are the wind beneath my wings
Mm



Snuggler, Mommy, &
Old Doggy: I suggest
you, with your charm,
in the pandemic
made these 2 years
memorable.
- Daddy

It Started When An Area Man Nervously Asked
Girlfriend If She'll Settle,
2015, They Officially Settled,
2020, A New Bundle Of Joy Settled In
With Their Little Family
2021, They Settled On Their First Home
2022, What He Wants to Say Is,
Thank You For Settling

I have loved you for
nearly all of the
2,482 days since we
first met.
I will love you for a
million more!
Happy Valentine's Day
to my favorite Troll

Sending love to
Aaron & Isaac,
wherever you are!
From your mother &
new stepfather

ABCs for Marjorie:
Artistic. Beautiful. Christian. Determined. Enterprising.
Fun-loving. Generous. Hospitable. Intelligent. Joyful. Kind.
Loving. Musical. Neighborly. Optimistic. Peacemaking.
Queenly. Resourceful. Savvy. Thankful. Unafraid. Viva-
cious. Winsome. eXultant. Youthful. Zealous.
- from Jim

How do I love thee, let me count the ways?
Oh News Review, you are a virtue in my days.
Your news most recent and produced in phase
We stay informed beneath your lambent gaze.
If I go on like this too long a time!
How to make taze, laze, maze
and raze conform to rhyme?

BH and SL,
How would I have made it through Covid Time
Without our special Friday afternoons
Emails exchanged, lists in hand
All with alternate options just in case
Out I'd go with mask and gloves
For my weekly freedom and shopping spree
I can't imagine how I would have made it through
Without being able to help in some sort of way
And without a good excuse to visit others
During such a dreary time
Knocking on your doors and seeing your smiling faces
Always lifted my spirits more than you will ever know
What a hoot it is to know that you felt it too.
Wishing you both a special Valentine's Day!!!
Lots of love, KB

Rosie, Rosie, Rosie!
You're the best even when I'm not.
You make the tough times bearable and the good times better.
Also, there may be chocolate in your future.
Love, Dan

ONLY UNTIL TWO DECADES HENCE ARE ENDED
And surely something better comes along
We'll let our books and nuzzly goofs be blended
A score-year rapt'rous swansong singalong!
Although you came so highly recommended
By friends, by Gld; your devotees - a throng!
Let not our time together be distended!
Past expiry date we'll not our tryst prolong.

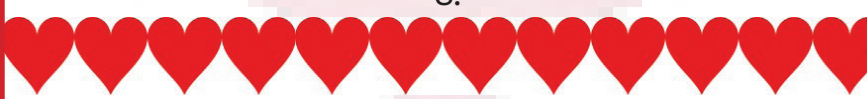
With chutzpah thus and hubris, cheek and gal
No thought the plan might someday be emended.
Began, did I, our cozy bacchanal
But this was folly, my Divine Intended!

You've got it all: the body, mind, and sweetness
Your skills, desires sexier than JaM
You keep me laughing, flying, in complete bliss
You see and love me 'xactly as I am

So since for each day with you I'm so grateful
Your passion antithet'cal to croissant
And thought of life without you is quite hateful
N'you wish for me to get just what I want

And since our bond's so precious, and unusual
As rare as Greenbelt's tufted currawong
Please make my dreams come true, my ursine jewel
Let's do those 'cizes b'yachad our whole lives long.

Dearest David,
We promised each other 30 years together and we have met
that goal. The time remaining is a gift and a blessing. We
have filled our life with precious family celebrations. We have
experienced the wonders of Machu Picchu, Angkor Wat, the
Pyramids and so much more. We have created a beautiful
home and garden. I am so grateful for our 30 years of love.
Happy Anniversary. Happy Valentine's Day.
S.



This year among so many things I will miss
getting a Valentine's Day Love Note from you. You
are my heart and the love of my life.
You are both the wind in my sails and my anchor.
Bill Duncan, I love you forever!
Shobha

Dear Mommy,
Sandwiches covered
with butter on bread,
Burrito hugs as we
snuggle in bed,
Wandering off with
your favorite earrings,
These are a few of my
favorite things!

To Rick, who
appreciates my
cooking. Even if my
sense of humor is
perverse.

J.A.W.
- I'll stop the world
and melt with you.
M.G.U.

To MGS from JB
Happy Valentine's Day
To my special one -
Fantastic husband and
Wonderful pandemic partner -
Nothing can mask my love for you
(but we'll still observe CDC guidelines)!

To Aech Ess and Enn Ess,
On year nine
And still fine
During Covid lockdown
signed on the dotted line
Time to celebrate and be happy
This Valentine's Day brings
A new married couple
Congratulations and Happy Valentine's Day!
Lots of love, Kay Bee
M,

E,
Storyteller extraordinaire,
peerless playmate,
patient tamer of papers,
nurturer of people and nature.
You are an amazing dad and husband too,
But most of all we love you!
D&R

My compass always points to you.
Notwithstanding where we roam.
Ayla, You're my bearing true.
Your embrace my home.
I profess my love anew.
To author our proceeding tome.
-Michael

Our lives spiraled together into a COVID black hole,
But instead of collapsing we readjusted our goal:
Stay safe and sane by nourishing body and soul.
Walks, workouts, music, reading,
and Zoom kept us on a roll.
Having survived this ordeal, our love
can surely handle any toll!

Happy Valentine's Day
to my new hubby: six
weeks and counting!



Carrie, Carrie,
Always harried,
Cannot find her keys.
Pocket or purse,
Neither is worse,
Than scrambling
around on your knees.

Dear Dora, I love you more than Han loves the
Falcon, Grogg loves his gear knob, and Luke loves
his theme music. Happy Valentine's Day and MT-
FBWYA! Love, Daddy

VALENTINE WISHES TO ALL
Happy Valentines' Day to all of our friends
Not from Tom, Dick or Harry
Not from DC's old Mayor
But from Greenbelt's own -- Mary 'n Barr

On the dock at Fletcher's (no rhyme)
You said "Want to go paddling some time?"
I said "Sure!"
No second thoughts there were,
And you had me at the first eddy line.



Happy Valentine's Day, dear Greenbelt friends!
Your generosity, kindness and caring love shown
to me and to Bill will always be remembered.

With gratitude,
Shobha Duncan
Happy Valentine's Day

(With apologies to Ted Lasso and Roy Kent):
He's here (at the Co-op)!
He's there (at the New Deal)!
He's every feeding where!
Dan Gillotte! Dan Gillotte!

THE WOMAN OF MY DREAMS
I fell asleep
I had a dream
I had you as my own
Your hair was fine
Your lips were soft
And you were mine alone
I woke
I found you lying there
Sleeping next to me
I knew I had been blessed
This woman of my dreams
I smiled
I thought
I fell asleep
And you were there again
I know my life is most complete
In waking and in dreams

by Melissa Sites

Komar is no stranger to growing her own food. “I started growing food a year after I got married,” she explained. “My husband wanted a garden so we began one in the summer of 2012. We’ve grown lots of dif-



To help Homegrown Heroes expand into an outdoor greenhouse at ERHS, contact kathryn.komar@pgcps.org.

The Friends group would continue to remain a separate entity involved with fundraising, long-term strategic planning and providing advice. Wendy Hurlock Baker, board president of Friends

A public visioning session is scheduled for Thursday, February 10, with a final report due June 30 identifying short- and long-term recommendations for the corridor, next steps and potential funding sources. A Virtual Comment Map will open online on February 10 for seven weeks. There will be a public meeting in March to refine the recommendations.





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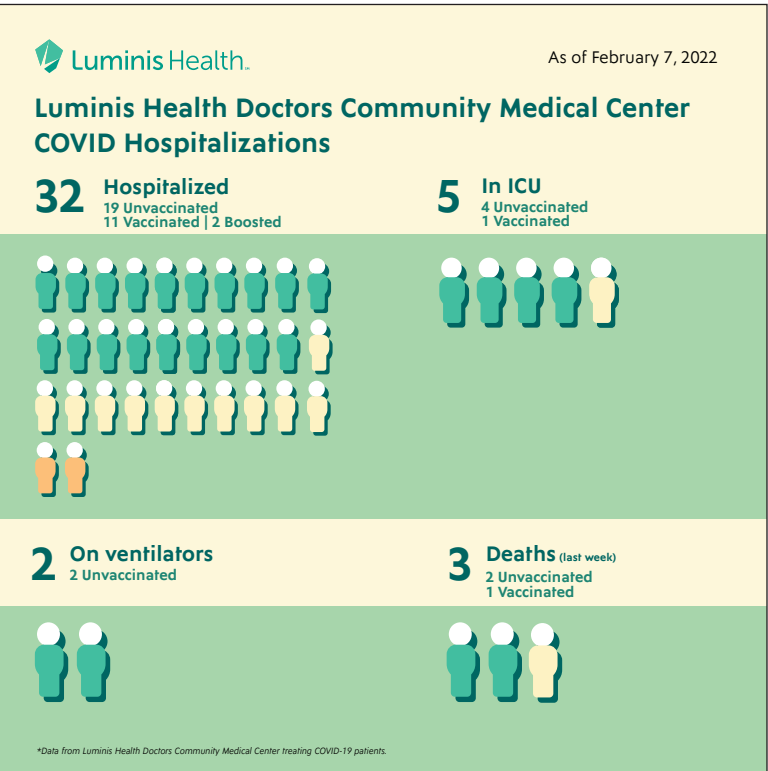
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Covid Is on the Wane Locally But New Variant Emerges

by Cathie Meetre



This week’s Covid statistics show new Covid-19 infections continuing to decline in our local area. The BBC’s news website (BBC.com), though, gives information on another Omicron variant (BA.2), first detected in the Philippines, which is gaining ground in Europe, India and globally.

Most Omicron cases so far have been the BA.1 type so BA.2’s propensities are only beginning to emerge. Preliminary studies in Denmark, where Omicron BA.2 apparently already accounts for half the new cases, indicate the new variant to be even more highly contagious than BA.1 but see no evidence so far that it is more severe. It also appears that fully vaccinated individuals continue to fare much better than their unvaccinated age-and-comorbidity-rates and are also less likely to pass the virus on to others than are the unvaccinated. The full article is available at bbc.com/news/health-60233899.

Maryland Vaccinations

Although 98 percent of Marylanders 18 and over have received at least one vaccine dose, many have not completed the full course which includes the booster. Only about 4.4 million out of 6.5 million statewide are fully vaccinated, meaning that almost one-third of Maryland’s population remains at an unnecessarily high risk of serious illness.

In Prince George’s County, out of a population of just over 905,000 – about 770,000 people (84.6 percent) – have received at least one dose, 645,900 (71.0 percent) have received at least two doses or a single Johnson & Johnson dose, but only 251,000 (27.6 percent) have also received a booster shot. (Data from CovidActNow.org for February 7.) This despite

overwhelming evidence that it’s the booster that puts the cherry on top.

ZIP Code 20770

New cases in the 20770 ZIP code have been running at between four and seven per day for the last week – significantly down from the early January peak of just under 60 per day on the same seven-day rolling daily average basis. Key metrics in Prince George’s County’s four-level scale (Low, Medium, High and Critical) also show an encouraging trend with available hospital capacity in the Medium range and both the Average Daily Case Rate and the Percent of Positive Test data squarely in the High zone (both down from Critical). The number of hospital beds countywide containing Covid-19 patients is down from a peak of 364 reached on January 11, having declined steadily to 129 by February 7.

Luminis Changes Gears

News from Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (LHDCMC) is also encouraging. They are cautiously re-integrating their regular patient population as beds are released from Covid use. Luminis hospitalization statistics once again show overwhelming evidence for the effectiveness of a booster shot. The total number of Covid patients in the Lanham facility (as shown in the infographic prepared for us by LHDCMC) is now 39 (down from 48 last week) and the number of seriously ill patients in the intensive care unit (ICU) or on ventilators is also slightly lower than last week. Of hospitalized patients, only two had received a booster shot – and neither was in the ICU.

Delegates Washington, Healey Talk about Greenbelt Issues

by Glenn Harris

This week the News Review interviewed Delegate Alonzo T. Washington and Delegate Anne Healey. This is a continuation of the series of interviews with Greenbelt representatives during the legislative session.

Alonzo T. Washington

Connectedness of the Community: Delegate Washington sees that at times there are three Greenbelts (East, Center and West) with no connection between the areas. He also notes divisions by socio-economics, race and gender. He supports equitable economic development. Washington observes that education affects all of us, whether or not we have children. He wants to see Greenbelt schools as high-quality education facilities, noting particularly that Springhill Lake Elementary is aging and in need of upgrading. Further, at this school, 90 percent of students are at or below the poverty line. He has worked to provide additional funding and two additional positions at the school. He also sees Eleanor Roosevelt High School as an amazing place that could benefit from replacement.

Access to Greenbelt Metro Station: There is no current direct access from Greenbelt Road to the Metro Station. He recently participated in a walking tour looking at Greenbelt Road access to Metro, and the group identified 60 safety infractions.

The proposed redevelopment of Beltway Plaza needs affordable housing, and it also needs an increase in the capacity of the schools to support this new housing.

Mental health services: Washington would like to see improved mental health services for both low-income and senior citizens. To improve the emphasis on mental health, he has introduced legislation to designate mental health as the equal of physical health.



State Representative Alonzo Washington

- Photos by Glenn Harris

Anne Healey

Metro Interchange at I-495: There is money in this fiscal year’s budget to improve the interchange to make it more accessible for all commuters. Delegate Healey believes access to the Metro station from Greenbelt Road would allow more convenience for commuters.

Healey observes that the federal government will be the final decisionmaker on maglev. However, she wants the District 22 delegation to get assistance from Maryland’s Congressional representatives to oppose building the maglev.

Transfer of Goddard acreage: Healey believes this acreage should remain undeveloped and be transferred to the Patuxent Research Refuge. In previous reporting, the White House Office of Management and Budget has temporarily halted further action on this land.

Healey wants to see funding for the Maryland Blueprint for Education. This is a 10-year program, which includes funding to expand pre-kindergarten education. Additional funding for the schools with the greatest needs, including Springhill Lake Elementary, is a top priority.

Healey is a member of the House Environment and Transportation Committee. She believes that we need to look at the long-term consequences of climate change and anticipates that the General Assembly will pass one



State Representative Anne Healey

or more related bills this year. Healey anticipates running for re-election to the House of Delegates.

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COUNCIL continued from page 1

fees have gone up (a 9 to 10 percent increase) due to inflation and the rising cost of services, Cummings said that CVI has made efforts to mitigate even higher rates by things like the bulk purchase of utilities, seeing this as a success story. Waterproofing, foundation issues, brick and façade maintenance (affecting 60 percent of the buildings) and water infiltration are making significant demands on the community’s reserve funds. Efforts are being made to anticipate these continuing demands in the community’s reserve budget.

Cummings said that the recent building collapse in Florida has made obtaining homeowner loans a more difficult process with lenders now requiring detailed structural analysis before moving ahead. He characterized this as “a knee-jerk reaction.”

Windsor Green

Windsor Green, consisting of 654 townhouse units, has been making renovations on its community center and tennis courts, progress has been delayed by the

budget shortfalls of the pandemic.

A long discussion was had about the responsibilities of the State Highway Administration (SHA) and the adjoining communities along Route 193 and its sidewalks, for snow and trash removal and landscaping. Council explained that SHA is only required to plow snow, collect litter and landscape on Route 193 itself, while communities like Windsor Green are responsible for the sidewalks adjoining their property. With the recent snowfall, snow removal has proved a costly task and presents a safety issue with students struggling to cross the road through the accumulation of snow on the sidewalks, much of it piled by SHA plows. The city is keen for SHA to take more of a role, appreciative of even partial snow removal, perhaps 100 feet from schools. Council has made efforts through the Maryland Municipal League to create legislation to increase sidewalk upkeep by SHA along state highways.

District 22 State Delegate

Nicole Williams, a Greenbriar resident, said she plans to address these concerns with the new Maryland Secretary of Transportation.

Hunting Ridge

Hunting Ridge, according to Cummings, has continuing concerns about the proposed maglev train and was heartened by the cessation of the Beltway Widening project, as both would impinge greatly on the community. They have found success using security cameras in their parking lots. Cummings said that electric vehicle charging stations are being explored by CVI, but noted they would occupy common areas thereby limiting available parking, with the question of usage cost leaving the issue uncertain for now.

Derelict Comcast and Verizon cable boxes continue to linger throughout the city, presenting both an eyesore and a potential safety hazard. Frequently, requests from residents and the city to have them removed have been unaddressed. Acting City Manager Timothy George is looking into developing the most effective outreach to resolve this issue.



PARK continued from page 1

MAIL continued from page 1

pay a bill and brought it to a USPS collection box in the Roosevelt Center parking lot in Old Greenbelt.

“I just drove up and threw it in there and I figured that’s a very public mailbox, but no,” the victim, who requested to remain anonymous, said.

When the couple checked their bank statement, they saw a check had been posted against the account for \$12,500 and say they clearly knew the check was fraudulent.

“We realized right then and there that somehow they got a hold of one of our checks and did this, but we didn’t know how they did it,” the victim said.

They immediately reported the suspicious charge to their bank and to the Greenbelt police, who are investigating the instances of check theft from collection boxes alongside the U.S. Postal Inspector.

“It’s a real hassle when someone steals money from you like that. You have to change your passwords ... they freeze your account, then you have to go and get another account. New checks, new cards, so it’s a hassle,” said the victim.

The Greenbelt Police Department recommends that people bring checks inside a post office to mail them in a secured indoor

box, where they are more difficult for thieves to access, or to consider using cashier’s checks and e-checks instead.

Blue ink and ballpoint pens should be avoided when writing checks, the police spokesperson said, as they are easier to wash off the paper. Use a gel, rollerball, thick felt or fountain pen with black ink instead.

“Of course, make sure that the check is filled out properly. Once you’ve written the name, put a line through the rest of the check. Once you’ve written the amount, put a line through the rest of the space so there’s no room for anyone to change 100 to 100,000,” Glasgow said.

The police encourage residents to check their bank statements at least weekly because the sooner the crime is reported, the higher the chance that police will have good leads to investigate, and the less chance of further fraudulent activity on the bank account.

“If we do write a check to anybody [in the future], it will be mailed inside the post office,” said the victim. “My advice is to just not use those mailboxes anymore.”

Destiny Herbers is a journalism student at University of Maryland writing for the Greenbelt News Review.

Greenwood Village

Greenwood Village, with 194 townhouses, experiences challenges with fee collection (now \$45,000 in arrears) and possible unlicensed renting and units being occupied by up to eight people at times (whose familial relationships are perhaps dubious), creating parking issues, among other things. Council and Cummings recommended communication with the city, who has a list of the city’s renters, to verify rental violation suspicions.

Cummings recommended informing the county Health Department for action regarding the removal of the portable bathroom at the recently finished stormwater pond. It is both an eyesore and unsafe as it is being used without being cleaned.

Mandan Road was cited as an area of frequent car break-ins. Greenwood Village asked the city for additional lighting as a fix. Security cameras would have to be provided by the owners as it is private property.

Aging stormwater drainage systems was acknowledged as a huge issue across the city. Climate change, with the intensification of storms, is compounding the problem, as the systems were not designed for the increased volume of water. American Rescue Plan Act funds could possibly be used, but Councilmember Judith Davis reminded council that the funds are not unlimited and not every community will get what they are asking for to deal with this very expensive problem.

All board members and Cummings reported that, regarding property values, houses were being sold for the asking price, if not more.

a full assessment was difficult to make.

Thompson said that she would follow up with council on the status of adequate staffing, with many staff working from home and others being routed to other parks.

Council asked if the grading work at Capitol Cadillac and the coming Royal Farms gas station (approved by the Prince George’s County District Council and in the permitting phase, with construction likely to begin in the spring) would present stormwater management concerns. McLeod said that he would look into whether Environmental Protection Agency requirements were observed. Councilmember Judith Davis indicated that, according to Royal Farms, the approach is adequate yet council was skeptical.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts questioned the frequent stormwater strategy of cutting trees and building ponds, saying that simply leaving trees would be more environmentally prudent and logistically sound, as ponds are a short-term fix at best.

Thompson said that efforts will begin soon to address making the park and its trails more accessible, especially for pedestrians.

Council offered its assistance in opposing the maglev train proposal and the possible widening and state control of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, since both would have a major negative impact on the park.

Council asked McLeod to determine who is responsible for maintenance on the Spellman Overpass as it is in clear need of maintenance on its rusting safety fence and concrete footings.

McLeod said that there is a maintenance crew that regularly evaluates the stormwater drains on the Parkway to make sure they can adequately handle water from anticipated rainstorms.

There was a discussion of pedestrian and vehicular safety at the Greenbelt Road ramp off the northbound Parkway, as the sightline is obscured by overhanging trees. Council asked McLeod to look into what entity is responsible for addressing this, with there being speculation that perhaps the lane needs to be redesigned.

Council expressed its desire to continue a close relationship with the Park Service, offering city staff and outlets, like the city website and the Greenbelt News Review, as ways of getting information out to residents. Council shared its pride in having a national park in the close vicinity of its community, with Mayor Emmett Jordan calling it “a not so hidden gem.”

After the meeting’s agenda closed, Davis informed those present that the Forest Preserve Advisory Board has been made aware of the issue of trash and fallen trees at the newly-established Forest Preserve site at Greenbriar, saying that there will be discussions over scheduling a volunteer clean-up as well as a walk-through assessment.

Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here are from January 31 through February 6. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when they were reported and the incident described may have occurred earlier.

Major Crimes/Media Advisories

As reported in the February 3 issue, there was a homicide reported at 8:55 p.m. Tuesday, February 1 near 7800 Mandan Rd. The male who succumbed to his injuries has been identified as 15-year-old Kareem Tyriq Wilson, Jr.

On February 3 at 6:26 near 6000 Greenbelt Rd. westbound, an adult male was assaulted by an individual wielding a sharp object. The perpetrator fled the scene prior to officers' arrival. The victim was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Assault

On February 3 at 8:12 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Rd Wb. Dispute in business between customers turned physical.

On February 4 at 3:23 p.m. near 7500 Ora Glen Dr. An individual displayed a handgun at another person over a road rage incident.

On February 4 at 12:40 p.m. near 7100 Ora Glen Ct. Dispute between resident and cable service repairman turned physical.

Auto Stolen

On February 5 at 11:38 a.m. near 6200 Breezewood Ct. White 2014 Ford Explorer stolen.

Auto Theft

On January 31 at 9:17 a.m. near 100 Westway. Driver side door keyhole damaged, property taken.

On January 31 at 10:46 a.m. near 8000 Mandan Rd. Vehicle ignition vandalized, passenger door had signs of forced entry.

On February 1 at 6:28 a.m. near 7800 Mandan Rd. Passenger window smashed.

Multiple catalytic converters were stolen in the central part of the city. All were from Toyota Prius models.

February 1 at 8 Laurel Hill Rd.; 4 Ct. Hillside Rd.; 42 and 6 Ct. Ridge Rd and 6 Ct. of Research Rd.

On February 2 at 50 Ct. Ridge Rd.

On February 3 at 400 Block of Ridge Rd.; 100 Block Julian Ct.; 200 Block Lakeside Dr.

On February 4 39 Ct. Ridge Rd.

On February 3 at 6:15 a.m. near 100 Westway. All four tires of vehicle stolen.

On February 3 at 6:19 p.m. near 7400 Morrison Dr. Rear window of vehicle broken, personal property taken.

On February 3 at 8:06 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Ct. Driver's side window broken, handicap placard stolen.

On February 5 at 11:30 a.m. near 53 Ridge Rd. Auto Theft

On February 6 at 3:56 p.m. near 7300 Mandan Rd. Theft of rear tag.

Auto Vandalism

On January 31 at 11:10 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Rd. Vehicle windshield smashed.

On February 3 at 8:20 a.m. near 33 Ridge Rd. Rear window of vehicle smashed.

On February 3 at 1:34 p.m. near 7200 Morrison Dr. Front passenger side window broken, nothing taken. Second vehicle front driver side window broken,

items taken.

On February 5 at 10:16 p.m. near 7200 S. Ora Ct. Vehicle intentionally scratched by unknown individual.

Carjacking

On January 31 at 8:33 p.m. near 9100 Springhill Ln. Victim approached by a male who implied he had a weapon and stole the victim's gray 2013 Jeep Cherokee. The victim's vehicle was later located in Berwyn Heights unoccupied.

Disorderly Conduct

On January 31, at 11:15 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Rd westbound. Adult male arrested for indecent exposure and possession of controlled substances.

Found

On February 1 at 8:52 a.m. near 5800 Cherrywood Ter. Missing person from Prince George's County located.

On February 3 at 12:46 p.m. near 7900 Mandan Rd. Stolen registration tag located.

Fraud

On February 2 at 9:40 a.m. near 2 Ct. Westway. Check fraud.

On February 4 at 10:54 a.m. near 200 Lakeside Dr. Unknown person filed for unemployment benefits in resident's name.

On February 5 at 1:49 p.m. near 34 Ridge Rd. Unknown individual applied for credit card in resident's name.

On February 6 at 5:07 p.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Rd eastbound. Credit card information stolen and used fraudulently at multiple businesses around the area.

Recovery of Stolen Property

On February 3 at 3:50 a.m. near Springhill Ln. / Breezewood Dr. Car stop. During a search of the vehicle, officers located two firearms and multiple stolen items that were linked to several auto thefts in Laurel. The two adult males in the vehicle were arrested on weapons and theft charges. Officers were able to identify the owners of some of the stolen property and return it.

Shoplifting

On February 4 at 12:56 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Rd eastbound. Commercial theft.

On February 4 at 4:50 p.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Rd eastbound. Commercial theft.

Theft

On February 1 at 8:06 p.m. near 100 Westway. Greenbelt Animal Shelter cat trap stolen.

On February 5 at 10:16 a.m. near 6900 Hanover Pkwy. Package theft.

Threats

On February 4 at 4:34 p.m. near 6200 Springhill Ct. Ongoing dispute between juveniles.

Vandalism

On February 4 at 1:58 p.m. near 5900 Cherrywood Ln.

Robbery

On February 5 at 7:06 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Rd westbound. Commercial theft. When victim attempted to stop a person from leaving with items that had not been paid for, the suspect placed hands in coat and insinuated he had a weapon.



Pickleball Gains Popularity In Greenbelt and Beyond

by Stan Zirkin

Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in America. It is played by seniors who wish to preserve their knees but also in increasing numbers by younger players. In view of this popularity, it is remarkable how few people know anything about the sport. Pickleball has been described as a combination of tennis, ping pong and badminton. It is played on a court with smaller dimensions than a tennis court, a net that is somewhat lower than a tennis net, a racquet with a short handle and a solid surface not unlike a ping pong racquet, and a plastic wiffle ball the size of a baseball.

The rules are a bit bizarre to the uninitiated but are easily learned after a brief orientation. The serve, unlike in tennis, is hit underhand. There is a 7-foot space on either side of the net called the "kitchen." Players cannot hit an overhead volley while standing in the kitchen; if they do, the other side gets the point. Although singles can be played, it's more common to play doubles. In doubles, except for the initial serve, each doubles team player gets to serve at least once and continues to do so, on alternate sides of the court, until the other side wins the rally.

Pickleball has come to Greenbelt in a big way. It started as an indoor sport in the Community Center and has now expanded to the Youth Center. In addition, as reported in a recent News Review article, the Greenbelt City Council has approved the Recreation Department's proposal to draw lines for four pickleball courts on tennis courts 7 and 8 at Braden Field and another four on the Lakecrest Drive tennis courts, for a total of eight new outdoor courts. The outdoor courts will remain dual purpose – tennis and pickleball.

This reporter was introduced to pickleball quite by accident. About four years ago, I was looking for a sport to replace tennis during cold weather. Somebody said, "How about pickleball?" I replied, "What the heck is pickleball?" When the sport was explained to me, I was dubious but decided to give it a chance. After a slow start, I soon became hooked and continued to play tennis and pickleball on alternate days.

Rubin Scott hits the ball during a game of pickleball on Tuesday, February 1 on the tennis courts next to Braden Field.

- Photos by Lesley Kash



With warm temperatures and no snow, pickleball players take over a tennis court by Braden Field.

How did pickleball get its name? The story goes that sometime in the 1960s a young family was looking for a sport they could all play together. They came up with the basic idea for the sport and constructed a court in their backyard. Problems cropped up because their house was surrounded by woods and the ball kept disappearing. They

decided to train their dog to retrieve the ball. The dog's name was Pickles and so they decided to call the sport pickleball. I have no idea if the story is true. What I do know is that pickleball is good exercise and tremendous fun for people of all ages. For those interested in seeing a video demonstration of the sport go to youtu.be/kqLRRNOpe8U.



PRELIMINARY AGENDA Meeting of the GHI Board of Directors on February 17, 2022

A. GHI Closed Meeting – begins at 7:00 p.m. (closed to visitors and members)

- a) Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on January 6, 2022
- b) Request from a Member for a Rental Permit Extension
- c) Acquisition of New Radios for the Maintenance Department - 1st reading

B. GHI Open Meeting – begins at 7:45 p.m. (open to visitors and members)

- a) Statement of Closed Meeting Held on February 17, 2022
- b) Approve Minutes of the Open Meeting Held on January 6, 2022
- c) Review Report on the Solar PVES System Installed at the Administration Building and Proposed Pre-paid Power Purchase Agreement
- d) Review 2021-22 Board Action Plan
- e) Bicycle Committee's Locker Proposal
- f) Discuss Format of Report for the 2022 Exterior Building and Yard Inspection Program
- g) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on March 6, 2022

To deter hacking, GHI requires persons who wish to attend the GHI Open meeting on February 17, 2022, at 7:45 pm, to register in advance by accessing the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUkdO-qpj4pEtEwIZ1MeFJuOrDFrydAIoRT>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

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DUCKIE - a year of blooms and a lot fewer zooms made my heart sing; now if only I could write a parody to match. Love Dinghy

K&M — you make our hearts proud! Mama and Mommy

‘LOVE GROWS.’ Happy Valentine’s Day Pops!

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BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

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BASEBALL continued from page 1

Atkinson said that baseball and the league played a big part in the civil rights movement. It was a big money-making enterprise that could not be overlooked. While serving in the military from 1960 to 1961, he played on integrated teams.

Rayner Banks, co-founder of the Hubert V. Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball, Inc., displayed material from the mid-1800s to the 1960s. Donald Conway, of Prince George’s County, showed some of his collection; Black Diamond Ltd.’s material on display included T-shirts, books, hats and jackets. The exhibits included such items as large photos of many players, a video of some historic games, signed baseballs and baseball bats, baseball cards, news articles, books and even some mugs with photographs of players on them. A copy of a U.S. Postage stamp of Andrew “Rube” Foster, considered the Father of Black Baseball, was also on display.

Although not able to attend the event, this reporter spoke to Mrs. Geraldine Day, widow of Hall of Famer Leon Day. She said her husband’s love of the game kept him playing despite many difficulties, including promises of money that never materialized and dealing with segregation when traveling in the South. Day described the racism the team encountered, where, many times the team couldn’t

get gas on the road so they got a bus that had two gas tanks, and they were only allowed to play on the big ballfields when the Major League wasn’t playing on them. One sheriff in Georgia told the team if they didn’t let his “n” team win they would go to jail. While traveling in Puerto Rico and Canada for games the treatment was much better with higher pay, and the men reported that they were treated with a greater degree of dignity.

Visitors to the event included Jen and Jay Jenkins of New Market, Md., who joined others in their love of baseball as well as their interest in preserving this history. Andrew Phelan, a local baseball fan, was excited to add to his knowledge. Also present was Eli Bar, a teacher from Montgomery County, who includes some history of Negro League Baseball in his Black History classes and was eager to gain more information.

Several members of the Simmons-Day All Stars over-70 baseball team of Maryland enjoyed showing off their shirts and jackets as well as joking around. David Smoot, Sr., of Severn, said that at some of the tournaments ballplayers win rings. The team travels as far south as Florida and many states in between.

Leeann Irwin is the co-chair of the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee along with Lois Rosado.



Rayner Banks, co-founder of the Hubert V. Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball, Inc., sits with his exhibit.



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Lakewood! 5 BR, 2.5 BA with full in-law suite on lower level. Raised deck with seating area & hot tub overlooks enormous back yard with shed.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI townhome on corner lot. Large front porch, full bath, back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With Stainless Steel appliances.

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Zoned HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome w/ hardwood flrs. throughout. Modern kitchen with stainless washer. Hardwood flooring on both levels.

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full size washer & dryer in separate room. Hardwood flrs. finished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Don't miss this one!

Full Attached Inlaw apartment 5 BR, 4 Bath home w/ full size SS. Elevator to bottom level. 2 Full kitchens, generator, fireplace & more.

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Love Notes

Continued from page 9



All my love to the
four boys of Chateau
Arbre Vert.
Being outnumbered
has never been so fun.
Xxo

My Dearest:
Although I am limited
to 20 words,
My love for you knows
no bounds.
יננה
Hineni
Your Loving Husband

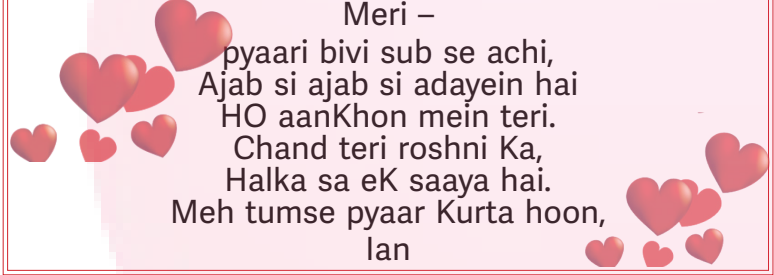
My Lenten Roses
are starting to show
their deep red colors
just in time for
Valentine's Day.




Happy Valentine's day to the best neighbors and
the cutest little white doggie in Greenbelt! This
year, let's SAVE OUR STAIRS!




Meri –
pyaari bivi sub se achi,
Ajab si ajab si adayein hai
HO aankhon mein teri.
Chand teri roshni Ka,
Halka sa eK saaya hai.
Meh tumse pyaar Kurta hoon,
Ian




Csilla and Luna, won't you be mine?
You bring such joy and laughter
wherever you are
Cuteness to a new level
Full of frolic and fun
If we could only bottle up your energy
We'd be set for forever.



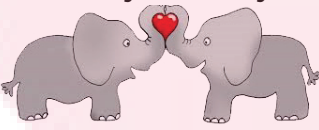
Happy Valentine's Day to all
the special Dogs of Greenbelt,
and many thanks for all the humans who let us
non-dog humans visit with yours. Special mention
goes to Alton, Mollie, Snow, Ziggy, Maizey, Teddy,
Sancho, Toffee, and too many more to mention.
Welcome to the newest members of the Greenbelt
pack, Csilla, Luna (Tuna Cruella) and Fozzie! Special
memories and gratitude for Solo, Ophelia, LeRoy, and
many more who will always be in our hearts.



Hello, Leonora!
What do you call a very small valentine?
A: A valentyin!
Felix,
It doesn't matter where we are or where we will
be in the future. We both know that "Together is
a wonderful place to be." – Always.
Happy Valentine's Day to the loves of my life!
Melanie



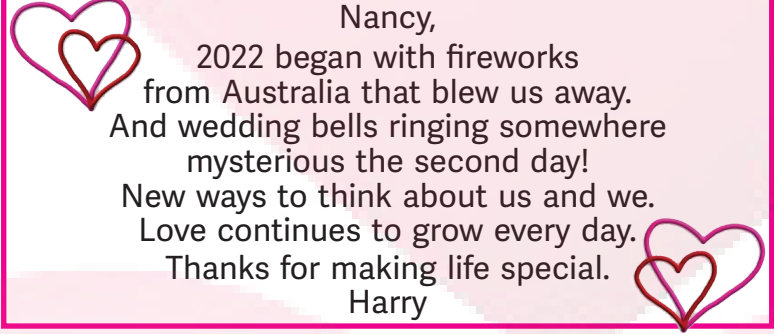
To Ham Damlin,
You're pretty good.
Love, your wifey.



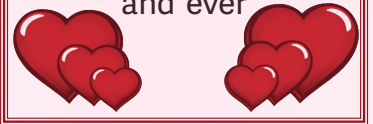
With love and musical
encouragement to my
piano buddy,
Margaret and all her
family




Nancy,
2022 began with fireworks
from Australia that blew us away.
And wedding bells ringing somewhere
mysterious the second day!
New ways to think about us and we.
Love continues to grow every day.
Thanks for making life special.
Harry



To Lisa, Sarah and Jenny
(in order of appearance).
With all love forever
and ever




30 years of a
wonderful marriage
and 19 years of
returning to our
beloved Greenbelt.
A glorious combination.



Waggles,
I love our PGs and
OMGs, pillow fights,
sleepover nights,
pizza time,
glitter slime.
You are the best
friend a girl can have!
Love, your fellow
cute girl artist.




For you I would wear a sinar
Can I watch as you swim, spin, and spar?
You I love, bridge to beach,
Times gazillions of each,
With you, life is always Adar



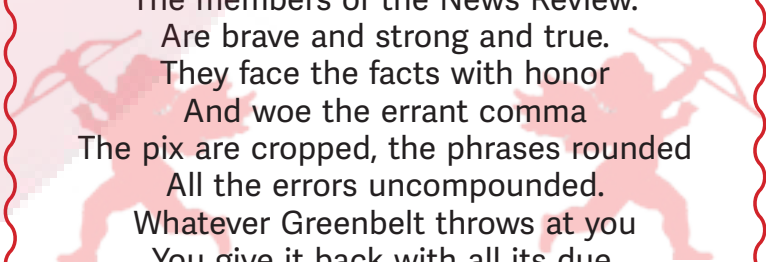
Michel and Martha,
Thanks for the match
making.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Harry and Nancy




DEAREST TERRY –
I grow more deeply in
love with you with each
passing year. Your forever
Sweet Pea,
Jeff




The members of the News Review.
Are brave and strong and true.
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And woe the errant comma
The pix are cropped, the phrases rounded
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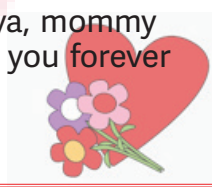
Happy Valentine's Day to Greenbelt's sweetest,
the one & only John Henry Jones! – Laura



Hey C,
I don't have all the
fancy things you want:
A million bananas, a
baby llama,
Buckets of jellybeans,
a spaceship.
I'm an old man in a
small house.
But if you be my Val-
entine,
I can order pizza.



Bunny's best friend
Reading books
'till day's end
Off to Greenbelt Nursery
School, run!
Not before gathering
flowers in the sun
Master of puzzles
Seltzer water she guzzles
Three years old but
wiser than ever
Shaya, mommy
loves you forever



Dear Heavenly Well,
You both are jewels for us in Greenbelt
Massaging and acupuncture our bodies
And tending to our souls.
Our hearts are full this Valentine's
For all that you so generously do
You help us stay healthy and whole
Renee and Julia you are The Best!
Wishing you both a splendid Valentine's Day!

Happy Valentine's Day

